

Food and Drug Administration 5100 Paint Branch Parkway College Park, Maryland 20740

May 7, 2003

## **WARNING LETTER**

## **VIA OVERNIGHT DELIVERY**

Peter M. Zeischegg MS, DC 13288 Banner Lava Cap, #A Nevada City, CA 95959

Dear Dr. Zieschegg:

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has reviewed your web site at the following address: <a href="www.drz.org">www.drz.org</a>. This review shows serious violations of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (the Act) in the labeling of your products Arabinex, Pleo-Quent, Pleo-Not, Im-Encap, and Ascorbic Acid Caps. You can find the Act and implementing regulations through links on FDA's Internet home page at <a href="www.fda.gov">www.fda.gov</a>.

Under the Act, articles intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment or prevention of disease in man are drugs [Section 201(g)(1)(B) of the Act]. Your web site claims that your products are useful in the prevention of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) as well as in the prevention and treatment of a number of other diseases. The labeling of your products bears the following claims:

- Site: "SARS and your Immune System." "What can you do on a preventative basis?" "...how you can improve your immune function with specific emphasis on viral infection."
- Arabinex: "...extremely useful in acute viral infections."
- Pleo-Quent: "...useful for acute and latent viral infections such as laryngitis, bronchitis, sinusitis, flue-type infections, ear infections, fibromyalgia, migraines, vertigo, Meniere's Disease, Herpes Zoster, mumps, measles, chickenpox."
- Pleo-Not: "..very useful to enhance the immune system, and for alleviating infections of bacterial origin such as staph, strep, acne, ear infections, tonsil infections, sore throat, neuritis, neuralgis, urinary tract infections, prostate irritation, respiratory infections. Great for sick children."
- Im-Encap: "strong antiviral and antibacterial properties"

These claims, particularly the references to specific diseases, cause your products to be drugs, as defined in section 201(g)(1)(B) of the Act. Because the products are not generally recognized as safe and effective when used as labeled, they are also new drugs as defined in section 201(p) of the Act. Under section 505 of the Act, a new drug may not be legally marketed in the United States without an approved New Drug Application (NDA). These drugs are also misbranded within the meaning of section 502(a) of the Act because their labeling is false and misleading in that it suggests that these drugs are effective for the prevention of SARS and the other named diseases, when, in fact, these claims are not supported by reliable scientific evidence. These drugs are also misbranded within the meaning of section 502(f)(1) of the Act, in that the labeling for these drugs fails to bear adequate directions for use.

The above violations are not meant to be an all-inclusive list of deficiencies in your products and their labeling. It is your responsibility to ensure that products marketed by your firm comply with the Act and its implementing regulations.

The Act authorizes the seizure of illegal products and injunctions against manufacturers and distributors of those products. You should take prompt action to correct these deviations and prevent their future recurrence. Failure to do so may result in enforcement action without further notice.

Please advise this office, in writing and within fifteen (15) working days of the receipt of this letter, as to the specific steps you have taken to correct the violations noted above and to assure that similar violations do not occur. If corrective actions cannot be completed within fifteen working days, state the reason for the delay and the time within which the corrections will be completed.

Your reply should be addressed to Compliance Officer Jennifer Thomas at the above address.

Sincerely,

Joseph R. Baca

Director

Office of Compliance Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition